

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, Mr. President, members, I guess we are debating 204 right here. I wish that you'd get 204 out, the bill with my name on it that Senator Lamb just talked about, and read it. Read the bill. The bill grants the power to the Board of Regents to enter into a regional agreement with an existing school of veterinary medicine. Then the bill says that the Legislature is authorized to provide the funds once that is...or that they are authorized to enter into that agreement, and then the Legislature will provide the funds later on. It doesn't say that you provide them now. That has been my position all along. I support LB 204. I always have supported LB 204, I'll continue to support LB 204. Just so you all understand, in spite of what Senator Lamb just said, I am committed to bring that about. As a matter of fact, Senator Miller, I haven't shared that copy, I will share it with you later on, a copy of a letter from an individual at Kansas State who wants to help bring that about. I don't care whether it is with Kansas State or where it is with, but we've got to do that. We've got to enter into a cooperative agreement. Sure, I'm in favor of it. But just once on this issue I'd like to get the horse out in front of the cart. I'd like to get the agreements, find out what we're doing and then spend the money. I'd like to make the deal for the car before I pay for it. I don't go into a car dealership, walk up to the salesman, hand him a check, a signed check and then say, well, what kind of a deal will you give me. I don't know, maybe that is the way the rest of you do it, but I don't. I make the deal first. I find out exactly what it is, then and only then do we complete the deal by paying for it. That is all I'm saying. That is all I'm suggesting. Give them the power to enter into an agreement, find out what the agreement is going to be, see what the total cost is going to be because of that agreement, and then fund it. Of course, there is a difference in philosophy there too. That is a total difference in philosophy. My philosophy is we fund it ourself. If some private sources want to help us, that is fine, but I have made too many speeches chastising the federal government for the deficit spending that they are in to continue that philosophy that we are going to accept all the federal grants and assistances and all those kinds of things we can get to build whatever projects we can get in this state.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.